

FIG. 4 is a perspective view, partially broken away, of the magazine holder for showing the inner structure thereof;

FIG. 5 is a perspective view of a magazine;

FIG. 6 is a perspective view of the bottom portion of the magazine holder;

FIGS. 7A to 7E are illustrations of the disk player system provided with the magazine changing unit for explaining the operation thereof, respectively;

FIG. 8 is a brief illustration of a position detector;

FIG. 9 is a perspective view showing a schematic structure of a disk player system provided with a magazine changing unit according to another embodiment of this invention; and

FIG. 10 is a perspective view of a disk player of conventional structure.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

For a better understanding of this invention, a disk player of conventional type will be described hereunder with reference to FIG. 10.

A conventional disk player D_0 comprises a casing 100 in which a support frame 101 is disposed. The support frame 101 is provided with a portion for accommodating a magazine. A magazine 103 is inserted into the magazine accommodating member through a magazine insertion port 102 formed in the front surface of the casing and supported therein. The magazine 103 is provided with a plurality of vertically stacked trays 104 in each of which a compact disk 105 is supported. The trays 104 are arranged to be freely taken in or out with respect to the magazine in a manner rotatable about a pin 106 disposed at the front corner portion of the magazine. Each of the tray 104 has a side end on which is formed a projection 104a which is pushed outward by a pushing member, not shown, to thereby position the compact disk 105 on the tray 104 to a read out position in a state where the disk is supported to be rotatable by a compact disk supporting member, not shown. The information in the disk is read out by laser beams by means of a reading head, not shown.

The supporting frame 101 of the disk player described above is supported at the bottom portion thereof by vibration proof rubbers 107, 107, ---, 107 in floating manner or by spring means 108, 108, --- 108 also in floating manner.

The magazine 103 is taken in or out from the predetermined position by a magazine transfer mechanism 109. An eject switch 110 is located at the front surface of the casing and the eject switch 110 activates a discharge mechanism, not shown, for discharging outward the magazine in the predetermined position.

The conventional disk player of the character described above has defects or drawbacks as described hereinbefore, when the disk player is accommodated in a vehicle such as bus or motorcar or even in a case where the disk player is placed other than in the vehicle.

This invention was conceived to substantially eliminate the defects or drawbacks encountered in the conventional disk player of the type described above and will be described in detail hereunder with reference to FIGS. 1 to 9.

Referring to FIG. 1, a disk player system D_1 provided with a magazine changing unit according to one preferred embodiment of this invention comprises a disk player body D_0 of the character similar to the disk

player of the conventional type and a magazine changing unit C_0 operative connected to the disk player body D_0 . The disk player body D_0 is provided with a magazine accommodating member 140 in which is accommodated a magazine 103 for accommodating a plurality of compact disks 105 in a stacked manner on a tray 104 so that the compact disks 105 can be taken in or out from the magazine 103.

The disk player body D_0 has a front surface in which a disk insertion port 102 is formed so that a desired magazine 103 accommodated in the magazine changing unit C_0 is inserted into the disk player body through the disk insertion port 102.

The magazine changing unit C_0 comprises a casing 1 in which a table 2 is disposed to be vertically movable, and on the table 2, a magazine holder 3 is mounted to a predetermined position. A plurality of magazines 103 are stacked vertically in the magazine holder 3 so as to be taken in or out from the magazine holder 3.

The magazine holder 3 has a rear surface, a part of which is opened as an opening 3a, against which is located a movable member of a magazine transfer mechanism 4 for pushing out the magazine accommodated in the magazine holder 3. A detector 5 for detecting the vertical height of the table 2 is disposed at a rear portion of the table 2, and the movement of the table 2 stops at a time when the desired magazine 103 in the magazine holder 3 is transferred to a position opposing to the magazine insertion port 102.

An eject switch 110 is attached to the front surface of the disk player body D_0 and the eject switch 110 is operated by an eject switch operating mechanism 6 mounted on the side wall of the casing 1.

The disc player system D_1 provided with the magazine changing unit C_0 according to this invention is controlled by a control board 7, which may be set near a driver's seat in the case where the disk player system D_1 is accommodated in a vehicle.

The magazine changing unit C_0 of the disk player system D_1 according to this invention will be described hereunder in detail with reference to FIG. 2. Referring to FIG. 2, the table 2 is vertically moved by a table elevating mechanism 20, which is provided with feed screws 21, 22 and 23 for elevating the table 2 at three portions thereof supported.

A driving mechanism 24 is mounted on an upper portion of the feed screw 22 and the driving mechanism 24 comprises an electric motor 25, a drive gear 26 for the motor 25, a first intermediate gear 27 meshed with the drive gear 26, a second intermediate gear 28 formed integrally with the first intermediate gear 27, and a follower gear 29 secured to the threaded body of the feed screw 22 and meshed with the second intermediate gear 28. The feed screw 22 is provided with an uppermost portion supported by a supporting frame 30 which is rotatable and with a lower end to which a driving pulley 31 is secured. A supporting ear-like member 32 projecting from the table 2 is screw-engaged with the intermediate threaded portion of the feed screw 22, whereby the table 2 is vertically moved by the rotation of the feed screw 22.

The feed screw 21 is screw-engaged with a supporting ear-like member 33 secured to the table 2, and a guide bar 34 is slidably engaged with the supporting ear-like member 33 in a fashion parallel to the feed screw 21. The upper ends of the feed screw 21 and the guide bar 34, both extend vertically in parallel, and are supported to be rotatable by a supporting frame 35, and